

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The stopper wall portions 6 have an inner diameter smaller than an outer diameter of the engaging projection 5 of the inserted pipe portion 2, while the split lock pieces 7A of the control members 10 define an outer diameter larger than the inner diameter of the inner circumferential surface 1a at the receiving opening side of the receiving pipe section 1. A rotating operation guide groove 13 is formed in the inner circumferential surface 1a of the receiving opening of the receiving pipe section 1 slightly larger than the outer diameter of the engaging projection 5 of the inserted pipe section 2 for receiving the respective lock pieces 7A of the control members 10 thereby to guide rotational movement of the control members 10 about the direction of pipe axis X. The rotational rotating operation guide groove 13 communicates in four circumferential positions thereof with the attachment/detachment recesses 11 in the direction of pipe axis X. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Engaging stopper projections 16 are formed integrally with the outer circumferential surface 2a of the inserted pipe section 2 for attaching an attachment/detachment operating jig thereto that fits and separates the two pipe sections 1 and 2 in the direction of pipe axis X. A flange-shaped attaching portion ~~29~~ ₃₁ is formed in the end portion of the outer circumferential surface of the receiving pipe section 1 to correspond to a rubber tubular cover 17 mounted to extend over the outer circumferential surfaces of the receiving pipe section and the inserted pipe section 2 in tight contact condition for covering the annular space S and the outward surfaces of the attachment/detachment recesses 11. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The urging device D is arranged to move and urge, in the direction of pipe axis X, each split lock piece 7A of the control members 10 rotated to the retaining control position in the rotating operation passage so as to allow the engaging projection ~~22~~ ²⁵(E) of the lock piece to be engaged with the engaged recess ~~23~~ ²⁴(C) of the retainer wall portion 12 by utilizing the elastic restoring force of the elastic seal member 4 compressed between the inner circumferential surface 1a of the receiving pipe section 1 and the outer circumferential surface 2a of the inserted pipe section 2. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 28, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- FIGS. 16 and 17 show an improvement on the pipe joint construction described in each of the above embodiments, in which the attachment/detachment control device A includes the control members 10 in the form of a pair of semicylindrical elements insertable and removable in the direction of pipe axis X through the space between the outer circumferential surface 2a of the inserted pipe section 2 and the inner circumferential surface 1a of the receiving pipe section 1, and capable of fitting along the outer circumferential surface 2a of the inserted pipe section 2. The control members 10 have a predetermined number of (one for each control member in this embodiment) semicircular split lock pieces 7A circumferentially divided in two and dispersedly formed at the forward end portions of the control members to constitute the lock member 7. Each control member 10 includes engaging pieces 27, larger than the receiving opening inner diameter 1a of the receiving pipe section 1, and formed integrally with the outer circumferential surface in two circumferential positions intermediate in the direction of pipe axis X. The receiving pipe section 2 includes attachment/detachment recesses 11 formed in the open end portion thereof for allowing the engaging pieces 27 to be inserted and removed in the direction of pipe axis X, and retainer wall portions 12 for contacting the engaging pieces 27 in the direction of pipe axis X thereby to prevent disengaging movement thereof when the engaging pieces 27 inserted through the attachment/detachment recesses 11 are rotated about the

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direction of pipe axis X to the predetermined attachment position. That is, in this embodiment, the engaging pieces 27 are formed on the outer circumferential surface of each control member 10 in positions different from the split lock pieces 7A. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- In connecting the two pipe sections 1 and 2, the receiving pipe section 1 and inserted pipe section 2 are fitted and connected to each other in the direction of pipe axis X by using the attachment/detachment operation jig or the like. Then, the control pinching portions 15 formed at the circumferentially opposite ends of the flange portion 14 of each control member 10 are held to insert the engaging pieces 27 of each control member 10 into the rotating operation guide groove 13 of the receiving pipe section 1 through the attachment/detachment recesses 11 formed in the receiving opening end portion 1b of the receiving pipe section 1. The engaging pieces 27 of each control member 10 are successively rotated to the predetermined attachment position along the rotating operation passage of the rotating operation guide groove 13. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The urging device D is arranged to move and urge, in the direction of pipe axis X, each split lock piece 7A of the control members 10 rotated to the retaining control position in the rotating operation passage so as to allow the engaging projection ~~22~~ ²⁵(E) of the lock piece to be engaged with the engaged recess ~~23~~ ²⁴(C) of the retainer wall portion 12 by utilizing the elastic restoring force of the elastic seal member 4 compressed between the inner circumferential surface 1a of the receiving pipe section 1 and the outer circumferential surface 2a of the inserted pipe section 2. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 26, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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-- The space limiting members 28 each include a pair of a semi-circular limiting cylindrical piece 28A and a partly annular flange piece 28B. The limiting cylindrical piece 28A is insertable and removable in the direction of pipe axis X through a space between the outer circumferential surface 2a of the inserted pipe section 2 and the inner circumferential surface 1a of the receiving pipe section 1 and is capable of being fitted along the outer circumferential surface 2a of the inserted pipe section 2. The flange piece 28B is formed integrally with an outward end portion in the direction of pipe axis X of the outer circumferential surface of the limiting cylindrical piece 28A. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Control-knobs pinching portions 15 are formed to project from the outward surface of the flange portion 14 of each control member, and from the outward surface of the flange piece 28B of each space limiting member 28, respectively.--